

**ALABAMA CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION CENTER**

**2001
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IN ALABAMA**

**ALABAMA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER
LARRY WRIGHT
Director**

**STATISTICAL
ANALYSIS
CENTER**

Domestic Violence

This report was produced by the Statistical Analysis Center of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center. Data presented in this report was provided by the Uniform Crime Reporting Division of ACJIC for the calendar year of 2001. For purposes of this report, domestic violence is indicated when the relationship of the victim and offender is husband, wife, common-law spouse, ex-husband, ex-wife, girlfriend, boy-friend, ex-girlfriend, or ex-boyfriend. Statistics contained within this report include adult and juvenile victims.

**STATE OF ALABAMA
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Domestic Violence

- Of the 19,873 violent offenses* reported in 2001, 20% were domestic violence incidents. Domestic violence was indicated in 4,013 offenses reported: in 40 homicides; 172 rapes; 39 robberies; and in 3,762 aggravated assaults. 2,117 incidents of domestic violence were cleared for a 53% clearance rate. 19% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- There were 24,635 domestic simple assaults, which represent 34% of all simple assaults reported in 2001. 14,359 domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 58% clearance rate. 24% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 75% of the victims were females, and 25% were males. 60% of the victims were black, and 40% were white. In 63% of the offenses, the offender was black, and in 75% the offender was male.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 15% of the offenses; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 37%; a knife was the weapon used in 18%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 29%.
- 55% of the victims suffered injuries: 8% were injured with a firearm; 20% were injured with a knife; 41% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 31% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- In 34% of domestic violence offenses the victim was the wife of the offender; in 38% the victim was the girlfriend of the offender.

*Excluding simple assaults

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	27%
Common-law wife	4%
Ex-wife	3%
Husband	11%
Common-law husband	2%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	24%
Ex-girlfriend	14%
Boyfriend	9%
Ex-boyfriend	4%

Domestic Violence - Homicide

- There were 40 domestic homicides reported in 2001, representing 11% of the 349 homicides reported in Alabama for that year. 30 domestic homicides were cleared for an 75% clearance rate.
- 30% of the victims were males, and 70% were females. 48% of the victims were black, and 52% were white.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 61% of the homicides; a knife was the weapon used 18%; hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 3%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 18%.
- In 42% of the homicides the victim was the wife or ex-wife of the offender; in 16% the victim was the husband; in 29% the victim was the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend; and in 13% of the homicides the victim was the boyfriend or ex-boyfriend of the offender.
- 76% of the homicides occurred at a residence; 8% occurred in a street, alley, or parking lot; and 16% occurred in other locations.
- In 50% of the homicides the offender was white; and in 69% the offender was a male. 47% of the homicides had black victims and black offenders; 53% had white victims and white offenders; 0% had white victims and black offenders; and 0% had black victims and white offenders.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	32%
Common-law wife	8%
Ex-wife	2%
Husband	16%
Common-law husband	0%
Ex-husband	0%
Girlfriend/Ex-girlfriend	29%
Boyfriend/Ex-boyfriend	13%

Domestic Violence - Rape

- There were 172 domestic violence rapes in 2001, representing 13% of the 1,337 rapes reported in Alabama for that year. 84 domestic rapes were cleared for a 51% clearance rate. 36% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 53% of the victims were black females and 47% were white females.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 7% of the rapes; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 82%; a knife was the weapon used in 2%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 9%.
- 38% of the victims suffered injuries: 9% were injured with a firearm; 2% were injured with a knife; 88% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 1% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 75% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender, and 25% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 75% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 4% occurred in a street or alley; and 21% occurred in other locations.
- In 41% of the rapes the offender was white, and in 59% the offender was black.
- 31% of domestic rape victims were juveniles, but only 6% of the offenders were juveniles.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	18%
Common-law wife	2%
Ex-wife	5%
Girlfriend	37%
Ex-girlfriend	38%

Domestic Violence - Robbery

- There were 39 robberies in 2001 that indicated domestic violence. This represents 1% of the 5,237 robberies reported for Alabama in that year. 26 domestic robberies were cleared for a 67% clearance rate. 28% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 26% of the robberies; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 69%; a knife was the weapon used in 3%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 2%.
- 40% of the victims suffered injuries: 0% were injured with a firearm; 0% were injured with a knife; 93% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 0% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 72% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; 15% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 62% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 18% occurred in a street or alley; and 20% occurred in other locations.
- In 81% of the robberies, the offender was black and in 92% the offender was a male.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	10%
Common-law wife	0%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	3%
Common law-husband	3%
Ex-husband	0%
Girlfriend	21%
Ex-girlfriend	51%
Boyfriend	2%
Ex-boyfriend	5%

Domestic Violence - Assault

Aggravated

- Of the 12,950 aggravated assaults reported in 2001, 3,762 were domestic aggravated assaults - or 29% of all aggravated assaults reported in Alabama for that year. 1,977 incidents of domestic aggravated assault were cleared for a 53% clearance rate. 19% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 15% of the assaults; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 35%; a knife was the weapon used in 19%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 31%.
- 56% of the victims were injured: 7% with a firearm; 21% with a knife; 40% with fists, feet or hands; and 32% with other dangerous weapons
- 36% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife of the offender; 37% of the victims were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; and 14% of the victims were a husband or ex-husband of the offender. 63% of the offenders were black, and 73% were males.

Simple

- There were 25,635 domestic simple assaults reported in 2001, or 34% of all simple assaults for that year. 14,359 incidents of domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 58% clearance rate. 24% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- Hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 94% of these assaults, however, 35% of the victims still reported injuries.
- 41% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife to the offender; 42% were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend.

Domestic Violence - Aggravated Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	28%
Common-law wife	5%
Ex-wife	3%
Husband	11%
Common-law husband	2%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	24%
Ex-girlfriend	13%
Boyfriend	8%
Ex-boyfriend	5%

Domestic Violence - Simple Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	32%
Common-law wife	4%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	6%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	3%
Girlfriend	26%
Ex-girlfriend	16%
Boyfriend	4%
Ex-boyfriend	3%